

man purchase 6 copies of Dunbar's
Historical leaflets.

Postal card addressed to the
Southbridge public library, dated
Sept. 14th, 1901, stating that the book
"Story of government" shipped to W. S.
Brownell was not delivered, be pre-
served for reference.

J. A. Caron Sec

Meeting of the Library Committee
Nov. 4, 1901

Present Messrs Lovell, Corbin,
Mullins & Caron.

Minutes of the last meeting
read & approved.

Voted that the Student's cyclo-
pedia be returned.

Voted that the Librarian be
authorized to hire the help needed
during Miss Plimpton's illness.

Meeting dissolved.

J. A. Caron Sec

Meeting Jan. 6, 1902

Present Messrs Lovell, Corbin, Mul-
lins, Jagger & Caron.

Minutes of the last meeting are
read & approved. Voted that the list pre-
sented by the book committee be accept-
ed.

Voted that the Life of our Lord
Jesus Christ by James Tissot be pur-
chased, by Mynott fund.

Voted that the literary clubs in
town be allowed to take 5 books for 4
weeks.

Voted that the Librarian be authori-

ized to subscribe for and purchase 2 copies of Southbridge, 1 of Charlton, 1 of Dudley, 1 of Sturbridge, of Mass. Vital Records.

La Langue Francaise au Canada by J. P. Fardivel presented by Mr. C. Begin.

Meeting dissolved.

Meeting of Feb. 3, 1902

Present Messrs Lovell, Corbin, Grant, Whittaker & Caron.

Minutes of the last meeting are read & approved.

Voted that the present Librarian, Asst Librarian & Janitor be re-elected for another year at same salaries.

Voted that we procure Sawyer's book on the Philippines also American gardens, by Gury Lowell.

Voted that we bind 200 fiction & 800 juveniles.

Meeting March 3d 1902

Present Messrs Lovell, Corbin, Mullins, Grant, Lamoureux, Whittaker & Caron.

The minutes of the last meeting are read & approved.

Voted that we ask \$2000 and dog fund for the annual appropriation.

Voted that the subscription to the Review & Record be discontinued.

Voted that we purchase the Index to Recitations, readings & dialogues.

A communication was read by

Mr. Corbin from Mr. Andrew Carnegie
of New York City of which the follow-
ing is a copy.

F. E. Corbin, Esq.
Southbridge, Mass.

Dear Sir,

Responding to your communica-
tions. If the City of Southbridge
pledge itself to support a Free Pub-
lic Library at cost of not less than
Two Thousand Dollars a year, and
supplies a suitable site, Mr. Carnegie
will be glad to furnish Twenty Thou-
sand Dollars for the erection of a Free
Public Library Building.

Respectfully Yours

Gas. Bertram

Secy.

Feb. 17, 1902

Moved & seconded that a vote
of thanks be extended our worthy col-
league Mr. Corbin, for obtaining through
his efforts Twenty thousand dollars
from Mr. Andrew Carnegie for the
erection of a Free Public Library Build-
ing in our town. Voted.

Voted that the Sec. be authorized
to write Mr. Carnegie of our enthusiasm
and gratitude toward him.

Voted that Messrs Corbin, Lovell &
Caron be appointed a committee to have
an article inserted in the town warrant
in regard to Mr. Carnegie's offer.

Meeting dissolved.

Annual meeting for 1902-1903

Meeting April 17, 1902.

The Library Committee met this
evening for its annual election of officers

& committees.

Meeting was called to order by
J. A. Caron.

Minutes of the last meeting read
& approved.

Messrs Corbin, Bradford, Caron,
Helbert, Lamoureux, Whittaker, Taylor and
Mullins present.

The Committee organized with
F. E. Corbin, chairman & Alex. P. Taylor
secretary.

The following committees were
also chosen by ballot:

Book committee

Dr. C. C. Bradford

J. A. Caron

J. A. Whittaker

Library committee

J. A. Caron

P. H. Helbert

W. J. Lamoureux

Finance committee

A. P. Taylor

J. J. Jagger

F. E. Corbin

Executive Com.

Rev. D. Mullins

P. H. Helbert

W. J. Lamoureux

Voted that the book committee be
authorized to select a list of books & to
purchase the same without submitting the
list to the Library Committee.

Voted that the Librarian be author-
ized to purchase an extra copy of the
Southbridge Press for filing.

Voted to adjourn at 8.25 o'clock

Alex. P. Taylor

Secretary.

Meeting May 5, 1902.

Messrs Corbin, Bradford, Helbert, Caron,
Whittaker & Taylor present.

Minutes read & approved.

Voted: on recommendation of Mr. Ernest Whitworth to purchase the "Textile Record": That Mr. Whitworth be notified that if he could show that any considerable number are to be benefited by the purchase of the Textile Record, the Committee will give the matter further consideration.

Voted: That we purchase six tons of Behigh coal at \$6.75 per ton from E. C. Ellis.

Voted: to purchase an extra copy of the Southbridge Herald for filing.

Voted: That the Librarian secure from the Town Clerk a copy of all votes passed & any other business transacted at the Spring town meeting or at the adjourned town meeting, which related to library affairs & that the same be entered on the records.

In reply to the letter received from the Secy of the Committee on entertainment of the A. S. A. regarding assistance in entertaining the delegates in Boston: - Voted: That the Librarian be requested to inform Miss McBuffery that she was unable to interest the library committee.

Meeting adjourned.

Town meeting, Spring 1902

Voted to postpone all action under Article 17, i. e. To see what action the town will take in reference to the conditional offer of Andrew Carnegie to give \$20,000 to the town for a free Public library bldg, or act anything pertaining

to the same. - to an adjourned town meeting to be held April 24, 1902, at 8 o'clock.

Adjourned town meeting.
Article 17, Voted:

Whereas, the citizens of the town of Southbridge having received an offer from Andrew Carnegie of a donation of \$20,000 for the purpose of erecting a Public Library Building, and whereas the town has also received from Jacob Edwards of Boston, a native & former resident of Southbridge, an offer to give a library building and land upon which to erect the same at a cost of \$50,000

It is therefore voted not to accept the offer of Mr. Carnegie, but the voters of the town for themselves and for all her citizens desire to express to Mr. Carnegie our high appreciation of his generosity and good will, and wish to convey to him the assurance that we feel under the same obligations to him which we should by accepting his kind & generous offer.

It is also voted that the Town Clerk be instructed to send a copy of this vote to Mr. Carnegie.

The following communication from Mr. Jacob Edwards was then read:

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Southbridge.

Wishing to contribute to the welfare of my native town in some way which will be a lasting benefit to all its people, I will erect and give to the

Town of Southbridge, a library building and the land necessary therefor (provided a satisfactory lot can be obtained) at a cost of not less than fifty thousand dollars, on the following conditions:

First,

The said library shall be forever free to all the inhabitants of said town.

Second,

That said town shall annually appropriate not less than twenty-five hundred dollars for the support and maintenance of said library, including the purchase of books, papers & periodicals.

Third,

That no books shall be purchased with public money which are partisan in politics, or denominational or sectarian in religion.

Yours Respectfully
Jacob Edwards

Boston, April 23d, 1902

After the above had been read by the Moderator it was

Voted,

Whereas the town of Southbridge having received an offer from Jacob Edwards, Esq. of Boston, a native & former resident of the town, to give a Public library building and furnish the land upon which to erect the same

Therefore voted,

That the town accept this magnificent offer, with all the conditions therein, and the Voters of the town, in town

meeting assembled, for themselves and for all our people desire to express our thanks & high appreciation of his liberality & public spirit, and for the great interest he has always taken in his native town of Southbridge. It is also voted,

That it is the wish and purpose of the voters of the town that the said library be called

The Jacob Edwards Library.
The above was voted unanimously.
It was also voted,

That the thanks of the Citizens are due to Mr F. E. Corbin, Chairman of the Library Committee, for the zeal, enterprise & public spirit that actuated him in securing an offer of a library building from Mr. Andrew Carnegie.

Meeting June 2, 1902

Messrs Corbin, Mullins, Herbert and Taylor.

Minutes read and approved.

Mr. Corbin explained the arrangements that had been made for the local meeting of the Bay Path Library Club.

Regarding the conference of the American Library Association, at Magnolia, Mass.

Voted: That the Librarian be allowed leave of absence June 14-20; without loss of pay.

Voted: That we purchase the Art catalogue of the Soule Art Co.

Voted: That the matter of the pur-

chase of the Library of literary criticism be referred to the book committee.

Voted: That the July and August meetings be subject to the call of the Chairman.

Voted to adjourn.

Alex. P. Taylor

Secretary

Meeting Sept 8th 1902.

Regular meeting at Library this evening with Messrs Corbin, Bradford, Caron, Heber, Whittaker and Taylor present.

Records of previous meeting read and approved.

The report of the Book Committee was presented by its chairman, Dr. Bradford, and it was

Voted: That the Librarian be instructed to secure the list of books recommended by the Book Committee.

Mr. Corbin reported the facts regarding the breaking and entering of the Library; the arrest of three boys by Constable Dillaber; and of the amount taken from the money-drawer. The matter was fully discussed and it was

Voted: That if the parents of the boys do not show a disposition to settle the matter within the next two weeks, that the matter be referred to the Town Council and Mr. Dillaber.

Moved to adjourn at 8:25

Alex. P. Taylor

Secretary

October 6th 1902.

Regular meeting, with Messrs Corbin, Mullen, Hebert, Whittaker, Caron, and Taylor present. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Reid's Modern Eloquence was referred to the Book Committee.

Meeting dissolved at 8:15 o'clock.

Alex. P. Taylor.

Secretary.

November 3rd, 1902.

Regular meeting with Messrs Corbin, Hebert, Whittaker and Taylor present.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Voted: That the eleven supplementary volumes of the Encyclopedia Britannica be purchased.

Mr. Corbin stated that Mr. C. D. Paige had inquired if the Library Committee would be willing to return the painting of Harvey Dresser, to the Paige family.

Mr. C. A. Paige presented this painting to the Library during August, 1873.

After a thorough discussion it was Voted: That the matter be laid upon the table until the next meeting, and that the Secy be instructed to look up any facts on record regarding the presentation of the Harvey Dresser Painting.

The question of adding a weekly magazine, along the line of practical information for mechanics & artisans, was discussed and it was,

Voted: That the purchase of the American Machinist be referred to the Book Committee.

Meeting dissolved at 8:40 o'clock.

Alex. P. Taylor.

Secretary.

December 1st 1902.

Regular meeting this evening with Messrs Bradford, Corbin, Hebert, Laureans Whittaker and Taylor present.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The first business taken up was the subject of returning the Harvey Dresser picture to the Paige family. After a thorough discussion during which the subject was viewed from various stand-points the following motion was passed with a unanimous vote:

Voted:

That Mr. Paige be requested to make a formal demand, to the Library Committee, for the painting of Harvey Dresser Esq., and that Dr. Bradford be instructed to secure legal advice as to the rights of the committee in the matter.

Voted:

That we purchase a copy of the Supplementary Volume of the Messages and Papers of the Presidents of the United States.

Voted:

That we renew our subscriptions to all of last year's magazines, with the addition of The American Machinist and The World's Work.

Voted That the Librarian be instructed to secure Mr. Dakin's quotations on the magazines, and to use her discretion in purchasing them.

Dr. Bradford elected chairman in the absence of Mr. Corbin.

Meeting dissolved at 8:40 of Mr. Corbin.

Alex P. Taylor.

Secretary.

Copy of letter from Calvin D. Paige Esq.
Southbridge, Mass.
Dec 10, 1902.

Wm. P. Taylor Secty.
Library Committee,

My dear Sir:

There is in the reading-room
of the Library an oil painting of my Grand-father
Harvey Dresser of Charlton, presented to the library,
as I am informed by my father, August 1873.

It was my father's desire and intention
before his death, to request the library
committee to return the picture, for the
reason, that it was one of a pair, and he
felt as time went on, that they should
have been kept together in the family.

The writer agreeing fully with that
idea, and with a desire to carry out his
wishes as well, most respectfully request
that the library committee will return
the picture to me, and if the
committee feel by so doing they are
giving up any property of the Town
that is of financial or historic value,
I can assure the committee that
whenever the new library building is
completed, I will agree to give to the
library, that which shall fully equal
in financial and historic value, the
painting that I now request be returned
to me.

To the Library Committee
of the Town of Southbridge.

Yours truly,
Calvin D. Paige.

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March 3, 1902 - letter addressed to

F. E. Corbin

"Dear Sirs"

Responding to your communications, the
city of Southbridge pledge itself to support a Free
Public Library at cost of not less than Two
Thousand Dollars a year, and supply a
suitable site. Mr. Carnegie will be glad to
furnish Twenty Thousand Dollars for the erection
of a Free Public Library building.

Respectfully yours

Jas. Bertram,

Secy,

(to Andrew Carnegie, N.Y.)

Feb. 17, 1902 committee accepted
proposal, voted to write letter of thanks to
Carnegie, & insert article in March
wanant regarding C's offer.

next meeting April 14, 1902 - no mention